ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A system and method for compressing and decompressing image data. The system and method reformats the data by interleaving, before it is sent to the

5   compressor. The step of interleaving uses raster scan lines, taking ~~eight~~ N raster lines at a time and reformatting ~~it~~ the data so that the first bit of the first ~~eight~~ N scan lines form a byte. This is continued for ~~the second through eight~~ N bits. The data is then sent to a byte/text oriented compressor. After decompressing the data using byte/text oriented decompressors. ~~The,~~ the data is sent through an inverse binary data

10   reformatter to un-interleave the data and return it to its original binary format.